

## Message Text

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ORIGIN ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 DODE-00 CIAE-00  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AF-10 ARA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10  
MCE-00 EB-08 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 NRC-05 OES-07  
ERDA-05 FEA-01 /149 R

DRAFTED BY ACDA/MA/IR:BLMURRAY  
APPROVED BY ACDA/MA/IR:ARTURRENTINE  
IO/UNP:DMACUK  
ACDA/GC:MMAZEAU  
PM/DCA:HRPHELPS  
EA/ANP:TWAJDA (SUBS)

-----064783 122241Z /72

R 121822Z SEP 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 217834

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UN, NZ

SUBJECT: PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS: ENMOD AND MDW

REF: WELLINGTON 04061

1. PURSUANT TO REQUEST CONTAINED PARA 5 REFTEL, RESPONSES  
ON ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION (ENMOD) AND MASS DESTRUCTION  
WEAPONS (MDW) ARE PROVIDED IN PARAS 2 AND 3 BELOW.

2. ENMOD: THE US ANTICIPATES FORWARDING TO THE SENATE THE  
CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF MILITARY OR ANY OTHER  
HOSTILE USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION TECHNIQUES AT  
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SOME TIME IN THE LATTER PART OF THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, WE  
CANNOT PREDICT WHEN RATIFICATION HEARINGS WILL BE HELD.

(FYI: THE TYPE OF DOMESTIC IMPLEMENTING LEGISLATION  
REQUIRED BY THE ENMOD CONVENTION IS UNDER STUDY, AND ANY  
SUCH DRAFT LEGISLATION WILL BE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS AT  
THE TIME THE CONVENTION IS FORWARDED TO THE SENATE.

END FYI.)

3. MDW: THE US RECOGNIZES THE DANGERS POSED BY MDW AND IT IS OUR ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE, UNDER ADEQUATELY VERIFIABLE AGREEMENTS, TO PREVENT THE CREATION OF NEW TYPES OF MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS. THE US HAS ABSTAINED ON MDW RESOLUTIONS

IN THE PAST BECAUSE WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT DESIRABLE OR EFFECTIVE TO DEAL WITH MDW, EVEN NEW TYPES OF MDW, IN A SINGLE BLANKET TREATY. RATHER, WE BELIEVE IT TO BE MORE APPROPRIATE, WHEN A SPECIFIC POTENTIAL MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPON CAN BE IDENTIFIED, TO NEGOTIATE SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS THAT EFFECTIVELY DEAL WITH THE SPECIAL DANGERS IT POSES.

(FYI: THE USSR RECENTLY SUBMITTED A REVISED DRAFT TREATY BANNING NEW TYPES OF MDW TO THE CCD. AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO AN ANTICIPATED SOVIET RESOLUTION, THE UK IS CONSIDERING OFFERING A RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD CALL UPON STATES NOT TO DEVELOP NEW TYPES OF MDW WHILE REMANDING THE QUESTION TO THE CCD TO KEEP THE ISSUE UNDER REVIEW AND TO DETERMINE SPECIFIC ARMS CONTROL AGREEMENTS THAT MIGHT BE CALLED FOR. IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER SUCH A RESOLUTION CAN GAIN THE DESIRABLE SUPPORTING CONSENSUS; THEREFORE, THE US IS WITHHOLDING JUDGMENT ON THE UK IDEA. END FYI.)

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, NUCLEAR WEAPONS  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE217834  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** BLMURRAY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRE-UNGA CONSULTATIONS: ENMOD AND MDW  
**TAGS:** PARM, NZ, US, UN  
**To:** WELLINGTON  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009